

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1-15 are pending in the application. Claims 13-15 have been amended hereby. Claims 1, 7, 13, and 14 are in independent form. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Applicants note with appreciation that Claims 1-12 are allowed.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of Claim 14, under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Claim 14 has been amended in part to give proper antecedent basis to the recitation pointed to in the Office Action in paragraph 3.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended Claim 14 is clear and definite in its recitation of the present invention, and meets all requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of Claims 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. §101, as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 13 and 14 have been amended to recite that the wide area load sharing control method is executed by at least one of a sharing control unit and a concentration control unit. Further, Claim 15 has been amended to recited that the method is further executed by a state monitoring device outside the control device.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended Claims 13-15 are directed to statutory subject matter, and meet all requirements of 35 U.S.C. §101.

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth above, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Docket No.: FUJY 20.508 (100794-00456)

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